

# Barron County Department Updates

JANUARY /  
FEBRUARY 2014

## Register of Deeds

**Margo Katterhagen**  
Register of Deeds

After many months of preparation.....we are finally able to offer electronic services to our customers for their convenience!

On December 17, 2013 – we accepted our very first eRecording! Since that date, we've recorded 103 documents using this process. eRecordings allows the documents to be sent to us electronically along with the appropriate fees. If there is a problem with an eRecording, we can send it back to the client, have them fix the issue and resubmit all within the same day – eliminating un-

necessary mailings and phone calls.

On January 6 – we started taking credit cards for over the phone document requests and at the counter for vital record applications. To date, we've processed just over \$586 thru Point & Pay credit card system and we no longer have to turn away a customer who only has a check/credit card with them.

On February 3 – we launched VitalChek, which will allow customers to go online - request & pay for a vital record thru a LexisNexis program called VitalChek. Finally we'll have an answer for the people who need their vital

records ASAP and don't have the time to physically come to our counter or mail in an application!

Back Indexing: We just received the portable hard drive which contains ALL of our images that have been scanned. Once we approve the quality of the images, we will be moving into the final stage of our back indexing project! When this stage is complete – expected time is 24 to 36 months – Barron County will have documents available online back to 1964.

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## Health & Human Services

**Judy Demers, Director**

- The propane shortage is creating many challenges for households in Barron County. The shortage coupled with the ever-increasing cost is threatening the availability of funding for crisis services through the Energy Assistance Program. While we were appropriated an additional \$120,000 for crisis funds, with the cost of a delivery being up to \$1200, the funding would only

serve about 100 households. In years past over 200 households have received this emergency funding during the heating season. There is no indication as to the potential for more funding being made available.

- Recruitment is underway for replacement of our Economic Support Program Manager. Marie Berger resigned from her position on January 17.

- Recruitment is also underway for the second of two Economic Support Specialists. This position is one that is funded by the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- Over 500 Medicaid applications are being received in Barron County as a result of those individuals who signed up for the Health Insurance Marketplace, and based on that application, were deter-

mined to have met income eligibility for Medicaid. These cases need to be processed by March 31, in order for individuals to have coverage as of April 1. This is the first of several influxes of Medicaid applications that are expected due to the changes in Medicaid eligibility effective April 1.

# County Clerk

## DeeAnn Cook County Clerk

It is a rare situation, but we will not be having any Primary Elections in Barron County in February, 2014.

Barron County Circuit Court Judge for Branch II and Branch III will both be on the ballot in April. Both Branch II Judge, Michael Bitney and Branch III Judge, Maureen Boyle were recently appointed due to vacancies but the law states that the seat must be on the ballot at the first spring election following an ap-

pointment, which is April 2014. Both have declared their candidacy and are seeking election. A Circuit Court Judge's term is six years.

All County Board Supervisor seats are up for election this spring. An unusually high number of incumbents filed Notification of Non-candidacy for the Board of Supervisors (7). There are no candidates filed in Districts 6, 8 and 24. It is too late for any candidate to get on the ballot but if someone is interested in filling the seat it would be in their best

interest to register with the County Clerk as a write in candidate. District 4 has two new candidates filed and is the only contested supervisor race. District 2, 9 and 21 each have one new candidate filed. In District 13, the incumbent initially filed but then did not turn in signatures thus not making ballot status. A new candidate had also filed in that district and will be on the ballot.

There are no referenda questions filed at the state, county or school level but there is a municipal level



question in the Town of Dovre. There are only a few seats up for election in townships but there are seats up for election in cities and villages. There are several school board seats up for election.

# Human Resources

Rachael Richie, HR Director

<u>New/Replacement Positions</u>				
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Date Filled</u>	<u>New/Replacement</u>
Jail Captain	Sheriff	Tim Evenson	10/17/13	Replacement
Mechanic/Welder	Highway	Matt Kaiser	11/4/13	Replacement
Community Support Case Manager	Health/Human Services	Jeni Frazer	11/14/13	Replacement
Elderly Benefit Specialist	ADRC	Leanne Beloate	12/16/13	Replacement
Social Worker	Health/Human Services	Kim Randall	2/3/14	Replacement
ADRC/Aging Director	Aging/ADRC	Leslie Fijalkiewicz	2/17/14	Replacement
Civilian Communication Officer	Sheriff	Maria Balser	2/24/14	Replacement
Social Worker	Health/Human Services	Laura Arcand	3/3/14	Replacement
Nutrition/Transportation Program Mgr	Aging	Jennifer Jako	3/3/14	Replacement
Equipment Operator	Highway	Don Fogal	3/3/14	Replacement
Civilian Communication Officer	Sheriff	Maria Balser	2/24/14	Replacement
Economic Support Program Mgr	Health/Human Services	Recruiting		Replacement
Civilian Correction Officer (PT)	Sheriff	Recruiting		Replacement
Clerk/Typist (Behavioral Health)	Health/Human Services	Recruiting		Replacement
Economic Support Specialist	Health/Human Services	Recruiting		Replacement

<u>Internal Changes</u>			
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Date Filled</u>
Patrol Captain	Sheriff	Ron Baures	10/17/13
I&A Specialist	ADRC	Kim Gogan	12/2/13
Economic Support Specialist	Health/Human Services	Kim Bates	1/6/14
Assistant Clerk of Court	Clerk of Court	Anne Andrea	1/27/14
Behavioral Health Case Manager	Health/Human Services	Terry Holmstrom	1/27/14
Community Support Case Manager	Health/Human Services	Meghan Shadick	1/27/14